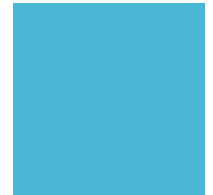




UNINTENTIONAL CHEMICAL SUBSTANCE RELEASE/HAZMAT

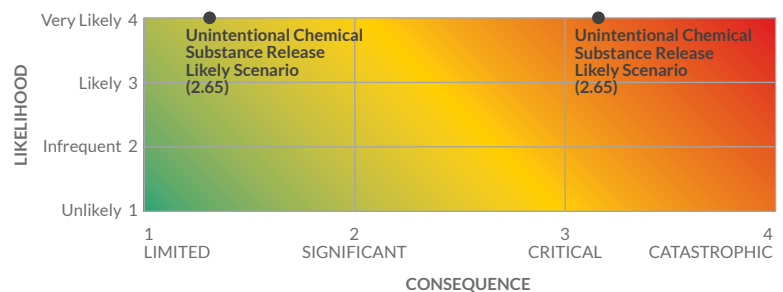


An Unintentional Chemical Substance Release/Hazmat hazard occurs when a chemical with the potential to cause harm is accidentally released into the environment. Hazardous materials come in the form of explosives, flammable and combustible substances, and poisons (biological hazards and radiological hazards are profiled separately).

HAS IT HAPPENED LOCALLY?

There have been 421 Unintentional Chemical Substance Release/Hazmat hazard responses involving chemical release, chemical reaction, or toxic conditions in Howard County during the reviewed time period (2008-2013). There were an additional 2,247 responses involving combustible/flammable liquid spills during this same time period, although this number includes minor leaks involving little contamination or damage.

RISK MATRIX



WHAT IS THE ONGOING RISK?

There is an expected **30+% Annual Likelihood** of an Unintentional Chemical Substance Release/Hazmat hazard in Howard County. In the most likely Unintentional Chemical Substance Release/Hazmat hazard scenario, the **Total Impact is considered Limited**. In the worst-case scenario, the **Total Impact is considered Critical-Catastrophic**.

| LOCAL RISK OVERVIEW | | |
|----------------------------|---|-----------------------|
| Future Likelihood | Very Likely 30+% chance of annual occurrence | |
| Impact | MOST-LIKELY | WORST-CASE |
| | Limited | Critical-Catastrophic |
| Risk Score | 2.65 | 3.60 |
| Risk Ranking (High to Low) | Ranked #6 of 16 man-made hazards. | |

DID YOU KNOW?

- Most health effects from an Unintentional Chemical Substance Release occur in the minutes immediately following the attack.
- A small-scale chemical release may not extend beyond the initial spill area, while a large release that introduces a hazardous chemical into the air or water can impact many square miles.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

- Howard County Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment readyhoco.com/hazards
- Ready.gov ready.gov/hazardous-materials-incidents
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention cdc.gov/niosh/topics/chemical-safety

UNINTENTIONAL CHEMICAL SUBSTANCE RELEASE/HAZMAT IMPACT

Where no Worst-Case bar is visible, Worst-Case impact is equivalent to Likely Impact

